

CHAPTER NO. 266

HOUSE BILL NO. 257

By Representative Garrett

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 521

By Senator Henry

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-511, relative to determination of death.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-511, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and by adding the following as a new subsection (b):

(b) A registered nurse may make the actual determination and pronouncement of death under the following circumstances:

(1) The deceased was a resident of a nursing home;

(2) Death was anticipated, and the attending physician or nursing home medical director has agreed in writing to sign the death certificate. Such agreement by the attending physician or nursing home medical director must be present and with the deceased at the place of death;

(3) The nurse is licensed by the state; and

(4) The nurse is employed by the nursing home in which the deceased resided.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-3-511, is amended by adding the following new subsection (c):

(c) A registered nurse may make the actual determination and pronouncement of death under the following circumstances:

(1) The deceased was receiving the services of a licensed home care organization;

(2) Death was anticipated, and the attending physician has agreed in writing to sign the death certificate. Such agreement by the attending physician must be present with the deceased at the place of death;

(3) The nurse is licensed by the state; and

(4) The nurse is employed by the home care organization providing services to the deceased.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 17, 2001


JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 22nd day of May 2001


DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR